

# Iron County Register

BY ELI D. AKE.

BRONTON, MISSOURI.

## THE POET AND THE HUMORIST.

The flowers on the prairie are blooming.  
The woodlands with melody ring;  
But the poet is slow in recording  
The advent of "beautiful spring."  
His muse is asleep and his verses  
Unformed, like the snow that they would be  
The butt of the funny man's satire,  
And ridiculed mercilessly.

I know not why humorous writers  
Should deem them legitimate prey,  
For naught of a magazine's pages  
Can be more inspiring than they.  
Who sings of the beauties of nature  
By riverside, valley and fell,  
And praises those rhapsodic creations  
Thus lauds their Creator as well.

They soothe us in anguish of spirit,  
Our troubles arise and depart;  
And their voice in their smooth-flowing cadence  
The noblest impulse of our heart.

But the funny man's jests are bitter,  
The charm of his wit they destroy;  
For his pen is pointed with venom,  
His pen dipped in gall to annoy.

Thus rose from thy lethargic slumber,  
Thou poet of nature, awake;  
And tell us of beauty abounding  
By mountain and woodland and lake.

Sing on, for thy sweet, tuneful measures  
Will live in the ages to come;  
When the funny man's jokes are forgotten  
And the voice of the scorn is dumb.

—Peter Grant, in Chicago Record.

## MR. AND MRS. BOWSER.

BY M. QUAD.

M. AND MRS. BOWSER had finished dinner and were sitting in the back parlor when Mr. Bowser laid aside the paper he had been glancing over.

"I couldn't help but pity him, though I know he is all to blame. There's no doubt he drove Mrs. Pitkin into running away."  
"I think he did."  
"They say he was a regular domestic tyrant. He knew it all and wouldn't acknowledge that he had a common sense. If he gave her a dollar he expected her to make it go as far as ten, and he was constantly taunting her that she was no housekeeper."

"I've heard so," remarked Mrs. Bowser.

"That's the way with some men, and I wonder that their wives stand it so long. By what right does a husband boss a wife? Matrimony is an equal partnership, as I understand it. The wife has all the rights of a husband, and in most cases she is just as intelligent and possessed of just as good judgment. By what right or moral right does a husband hand his wife a dollar for pin-money and then go out and squander nine for his own selfish pleasure?"

"I don't know," admitted Mrs. Bowser, who was wishing the conversation had taken some other turn.

"As a matter of fact—as a matter of fact and right, Mrs. Bowser—you have as much right to our money as I have. Half of it belongs to you. Instead of coaxing and begging for money, you should demand it."

"Yes," very demurely.  
"I know," continued Mrs. Bowser, as he warmed up to his subject, "who are jealous of their wives' intelligence, and who sit down on them at every opportunity. Thank heaven I am not of that sort! I have always been proud and pleased at your general knowledge of things, and the fact that you are about as well posted as I am makes me proud."

"Does it?" asked Mrs. Bowser, with a blush and a smile.

"Of course it does! I sometimes find that you are a bit ahead of me on things, and that pleases me the more. If I can learn anything from you I shall be glad of it."

"Won't you get mad if I tell you where you were wrong in talking to Mr. Abner last evening about the Chinese?"

"No, of course not. If I am in the

fall into the sewer. They talk about the hundreds of divorces coming up in the courts every term. The only wonder is that there are not thousands and tens of thousands—that there is a husband left in the land who can put up with these things!"

"All I said was that it was Corea and not Cyprus," quietly observed Mrs. Bowser.

"But I say it was Cyprus!" shouted Mr. Bowser. "Don't I know? Isn't it my business to know? Would I be idiot enough to say Cyprus if it wasn't Cyprus? Can any human being on the face of this earth imagine a wife knowing more than her husband about any subject more serious than whooping-cough and nursing bottles? Mrs. Bowser, you have brought it on your own head! You have finally loaded the last hair on the camel's back! Our lawyers will go over to-morrow and arrange matters, and if you don't want to go to Texas you can go to Corea! I'm going to bed. If our child wakes up kiss him for me and tell him his father will always love and cherish him, but that he had dignity to maintain and was given to maintain it at the sacrifice of his home and happiness!"—Detroit Free Press.

## FEAR IN CHILDREN.

It is caused by unexpected and mysterious movements.

As with animals, so with children, any seemingly unaccountable movement is apt to excite a feeling of alarm. Just as a dog will run away from a leaf whirled about by the wind, so children are apt to be terrified by the strange and quite irregular behavior of a feather as it glides along the floor or lifts itself into the air.

In these cases we may suppose that we have to do with a germ of superstitious fear which seems commonly to have its starting point in the appearance of something exceptional and uncanny that is unintelligible, and so smacking of the supernatural. The fear of feathers as uncanny objects, I am told, a considerable part in the superstitions of folk. Such apparently self-caused movement, so suggestive of life, might easily give rise to a vague sense of mysterious presence or power possessing the object, and so lead to a crude form of belief in supernatural agents.

In other cases of unexpected and mysterious movement the fear is slightly different. A little boy, when a year and eleven months, was frightened when visiting a lady's home by a toy elephant which shook its head. The same child, writes his mother, "at one year and seven months was very much scared by a toy cow which moved realistically when its head was moved. This cow was subsequently given to him at about two years and three months. He was then still afraid of it, but became reconciled soon after, first allowing others to make it moo if he was at a safe distance, and at last making it moo himself."—Prof. James Sully, in Popular Science Monthly.

At last hydrogen is liquefied. What was once pure theory is now an established, substantial fact. Every known gas has been forced from invisibility to visibility.

"I can't help what is in the paper! That's the way with you and all other wives. Let a husband admit that you know a tenth of what he does, and you try to make him out a numbskull. It was Cyprus, of course. The idea of your standing up and making me out an idiot!"

"You know where Corea is, of course?" queried Mrs. Bowser, after a long silence, during which Mr. Bowser's face took on a deeper red and his breathing became more labored.

"Are you talking to me?" he demanded as he stood up and extended his arm, and pointed his finger full at her. "Do I know where my own house is? Have I got brains enough to drop off a street car? Have I ever been sent to an idiot asylum?"

Mrs. Bowser made no reply. She realized her great mistake and regretted it, but it was too late.

"When a wife thinks she knows as much as her husband—when she even thinks she knows more—things are getting ready for calamity! She should know her place, and her husband should see that she keeps it. The next thing you'll be getting up and talking about your legal rights!"

"You—you said you were proud and pleased at my knowledge of things," Mrs. Bowser said, as he stamped around the room.

"And because I admitted that you might possibly have the horse sense to know that both ends of a street car stopped at the same time you presume to correct me about the Island of Cyprus. Didn't I say that was the way of all wives? I can see now what sort of a life poor Pitkin must have led, and what a glad relief it was when he found she had run away. Look around you, Mrs. Bowser, and see what sort of a house this is! If you'd paid some attention to our home instead of having your nose stuck into a newspaper we might take some little comfort."

"I'd like to see one kept in better order!" returned Mrs. Bowser, with a show of spirit.

"But don't sass me back! When a wife begins to sass back her husband should get his eyes open. I did intend to hand you out a ten-dollar bill this evening and tell you to go down and use it as you liked, but now I shan't do it. It would simply be throwing money away. I came home this evening prepared to sit down and amuse myself, and you see how I have been disappointed. It was with the kindest feelings that I frankly admitted that you might possibly know corn-stalks from cabbages, and you repaid me by trying to make out that I ought to be led around by a guardian for fear I'd

"BUT I SAY IT WAS CYPRUS!"

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## WAGES INCREASED.

Workingmen Still on the Gain Through the Democratic Tariff.

Since the 14th inst., when we published a record of the increases of wages reported up to that date, several notable advances have been made. The complete list has now become so long that we have not space for it here.

As it stood on the 14th inst. it showed increases made by about 230 distinct companies, firms, or individual employers, and the number of employees affected up to that time was about 128,000. We add below the advances made or reported since the publication of that summary:

The Carnegie Steel company, nearly 15,000 men, employed at the Edgar Thomson furnaces, Edgar Thomson steel works, Duquesne steel works, Homestead steel works, Lackawanna, Keystone bridge works, Upper Union mills, Lower Union mills, and Beaver Falls mills, voluntary increase of 10 per cent. from June 1.

Jones & Laughlin, American iron works, at Pittsburgh, voluntary increase of 10 per cent. on May 15; 6,000 employees affected.

Salem Wire Nail company and Findlay Wire Nail company, Findlay, O.; increase of 10 per cent. on May 15; 4,000 employees.

Lindsay & McCutcheon's Keystone mill, Pittsburgh, Pa.; puddlers' wages increased from \$5 to \$6 per ton, May 15.

Fall River Machine company, Cuyahoga Falls, O.; increase of 10 per cent. on May 15; 300 men.

Belair steel works, Belair, O.; increase of 15 per cent.; 800 men.

William Wood & Co., Philadelphia; weavers' wages increased by 1 cent a yard.

W. H. Grundy worsted mill, Bristol, Pa.; increase of 8 cents.

Minnesota Iron company; the advance in the mines of the Vermilion district, already reported, has been followed by an advance in the company's mines in the Mesaba range, in all, 2,700 men affected.

Bowling Green company; iron mines in Mesaba range; increase of 10 per cent.

Berthshire cotton mills, Adams, Mass.; increase ordered to take effect May 20.

Delaware iron works, Wilmington, Del.; increase of 10 per cent., beginning May 15; 200 men.

Moorehead Bros., Vevauis iron works, Sharpshooter, Pa.; increase of 15 per cent., on May 15; 350 employees.

Belair Nail company, Belair, O.; increase of 8 cents per ton, beginning May 20; 3,000 men.

Neuchwanek Manufacturing company, blankets, South Berwick, Me.; increase of 5 per cent.; 300 employees.

## EXPORTS GROWING.

Trade Improving Under Democratic Tariff.

A suggestive sign of improving trade is to be found in the treasury returns of the exports of domestic merchandise. This is particularly so in manufactured goods, of which our exports are still, relatively, insignificant.

There were evidences last year of considerable gains under this head, particularly in chemicals, cotton cloth and fertilizers. The gain in quantity of the exports of cotton manufacture was, of course, much greater than the gain in value. For the twelve months ending with last December the cotton cloth exported reached a total of 195,000,000 yards, against 159,000,000 for the preceding year, while the increase in value was only from \$10,300,000 to \$11,600,000. In other words, the gain in quantity was 22 1/2 per cent., while the gain in value was 12 1/2 per cent.

The great industries of iron and steel and their manufactures, agricultural implements and chemicals contributed less to the exports of the calendar year 1894 than they did to those of 1893.

But under all these heads, an increase has begun to manifest itself this year. The exports of agricultural implements in March, 1894, were valued at \$591,000, figure in the returns for March, 1895, at \$1,110,000. Chemicals, too, have come up from \$713,000 to \$772,000, and iron and steel and their manufactures from \$2,265,000 to \$2,975,000.

Of manufactured cottons, the quantity exported in March, 1894, was 13,437,000 yards, while for last March it was 16,728,000 yards, or a gain of 24 1/2 per cent. This is all the more remarkable when account is taken of the temporary check to the trade with China, which took last year 23 per cent. of our cotton exports.

Our exports to the United Kingdom, which took last year 35 per cent. of our cotton exports, are also showing a steady gain in the quantity of our cotton goods exported to the United Kingdom, albeit the monthly contribution does not exceed 1,000,000 yards.

Our export trade in these manufactures is more promising, promising as the beginning year of 1895, in cotton manufactures we export less than 4 per cent. of the annual total sent out by Great Britain; in iron and steel and their manufactures we have not yet beyond 16 per cent. of the British aggregate, and in woollens we do not exceed 10 per cent. of the total.

In fact, the total annual value of all our exports of manufactured goods is greatly exceeded by that of any one group of the manufactured products of Great Britain, which are sent out of the country. But the fact remains that our exports are beginning to show his ability to compete for a share of the world's markets is a very instructive one, in view of the dismal prophecies that were made of the lower import duties on his business prospects. He has by no means lost control of the home market, and he is getting an increasing share of the foreign one. That is quite in harmony with the teaching of all antecedent experience as to the effect on commerce of freeing it from protectionist trammels. But it marks only the first advance of a movement that before many years will have attained a momentum that the trammels which remain will be recognized for what they are, and their removal demanded by the very men who, erewhile, thought them a necessity of their existence.—Boston Herald.

## A GLAD RECOVERY.

Calamity Howlers Beginning to Get Their Eyes Open.

Is business prosperity something to rejoice over? And is it really caused by politics? The Tribune pretends to think so, and it is not without reason to keep up with its "lightning changes" on this subject.

Last year our versatile contemporary attributed the small foreign trade and depressed domestic industries to the democratic tariff. This tariff happened to be the tariff of last year, the highest ever known in this or any other country. But that did not matter with the Tribune. It inveighed just as loudly against the "free trade" tariff as though the average duty had been only 32 per cent., as it was the original Morrill tariff, instead of 50.96 per cent., as it was last year. And, of course, the slack trade was a calamity with a big C.

This spring trade began to revive. Importation increased. The people gave evidence of ability and confidence to clothe themselves more comfortably, to gain their living more easily, and to get forth from the once tall tower. Our markets were being flooded with foreign goods. Reviving commerce was as much of a calamity as drooping commerce had been. And the dreadful democrats were to blame either way.

But yesterday the organ opened another stop. It sounded the trumpet note of "The Glad Recovery." It proclaimed that "heartily congratulations are in order for the substantial improvement in business which has already appeared, and which, it might have been added, it is impossible for McKinley newspapers longer to ignore."

But—and here the funny man again gets in his work—all this "glad recovery" is due to the fact that the republicans carried the last elections. Considering that there is a commerce president in office and will be for at least two more years, and that in the senate of the next congress the populists will hold the balance of power, this wonderful long-range effect of a republican victory becomes little short of miraculous. Captious critics might say why not regard industrial prosperity and reviving commerce as a calamity, in that they will bring about a republican victory.

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What the business of the country now wants most is to be let alone, free from any such embarrassments as would attend an extra session. All matters of finance, currency and revenue can be safely left until December. Suggestions for increase in revenues, if it be found necessary when congress convenes, are being freely made, and there will be ample time to determine the sentiment of the country regarding them. Harter, of Ohio, is out with a plan, which would net the country ninety million dollars a year without seriously affecting the prosperity of the country, and that would aid the iniquities of McKinleyism, to which Mr. Harter very justly charges the fact that the administration has been selling United States bonds instead of buying and cancelling those which had already been issued. There are other plans proposed, but they are all of the same kind. It will be a good deal plainer than now what is needed, and an extra session would lead to nothing but harm.—Detroit Free Press.

Ex-President Harrison was hugged by an enthusiastic woman at a reception in New Jersey the other day. Harrison, being a widower, can indulge enthusiastic women in this way much more safely than Reed, McKinley or Lincoln, who are married. His rivals are compelled to stifle the time-honored custom of kissing the babies.—Utica Observer.

## RESIGNED FROM THE CABINET.

High State Officials Who Have Tired of Their Homes.

From the beginning of the government until 1876 there had been 207 cabinet officers appointed by the presidents of the United States, and of these 77 had resigned their offices.

Eight of the 37 secretaries of state had resigned from office prematurely, 12 of the 31 secretaries of the treasury, 13 of the 40 secretaries of war, 13 of the 30 secretaries of the navy, 11 of the 27 postmasters-general, 15 of the 38 attorneys-general, 6 of the 14 secretaries of the interior. There was no secretary of agriculture before 1889, but that office would not enter into consideration anyway, for no one yet has resigned it.

Of the postmasters-general, 2 resigned because of the death of a president. Whenever the vice-president of the United States has succeeded to the presidency by the president's death, the members of the cabinet have tendered their resignations to give him an opportunity to select his own advisers. In rare cases the new president has asked some of the old cabinet officers to remain. As a rule, he has chosen his heads of departments from his own political friends and advisers.

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## FLOWERS IN VASES.

Different Arrangements Are Varyingly Effective.

There is a choice in vases. All flowers look better in vases of clear crystal or pressed glass than in those of china, however rare the ware or artistic its decoration. Porcelain vases of graceful form and coloring are really competent ornaments in themselves, and they detract from the beauty of flowers, while their own conventional daintiness also loses by the contact. Another reason for choosing clear-glass vases and jars is that through them we can catch a glimpse of stems, and this gives the flowers a more graceful, finished appearance. When opaque vases are used, those in one plain, dull color, which pottery dealers call monotone, are the prettiest, a contrasting tint to the main color of the blossoms being selected. Imagine a dull-blue vase filled with the black-eyed Susans of the roadside, and you have the idea.

There is, too, a choice in placing the vase. Farther away from the looker-on, and yet lose none of their effectiveness or be unseen. But in fine flowers, like the forget-me-not or a cluster of heliotrope, would be lost on a mantel or high shelf. Put the delicate blossoms where their dainty color, form, or perfume can appeal to everyone, while the massed and gaudy splendor of larger flowers may serve to deck a dull corner or a shady corner room.

A pretty conceit is to put in each one's own room bouquets of the flowers best loved. This is a small matter, but in discovering these favorite blossoms the home decorator will grow attentive and considerate, and perhaps learn other ways of giving pleasure to those to whom he or she owes much.

Some flowers display themselves best in low, or saucer, bouquets and often thoughtful persons will give away the flowers almost bereft of stems. Moist sand or moss is particularly good to place such short-stemmed flowers in, as they are better kept in position. But the velvet pansies, with their modest faces, have an unexpected trick of curling up their stems in saucer bouquets. They are better controlled in small vases, the blossoms standing upright, just as they nod to us from the garden bed.

Place vases when arranged as gracefully as possible before a mirror, either on the mantel or dressing case, or hang a small looking glass or some other picture whereon the flowers are put. A simple bouquet of a half-dozen simple flowers, which we call daisies, and their own leaves, a few daisies and sprays of oats, reflected in a plain mirror, make a long-remembered double picture of grace and beauty rarely seen, even when costly roses and ferns are freely to be had.—N. Y. Times.

## IN COOLING JELLY.

Always Cover It to Keep Out Malignant

"My husband," said a physician's wife not long ago, "chanced to see one day, standing on a shelf outside our kitchen window, some moulds of jelly cooling for the night's dinner. They were uncovered, as they were out of reach of cats, and in full view of cook's watchful eye, but he questioned me about them, and asked if it was our usual custom to leave jelly thus unprotected. I was obliged to reply that, so far as I knew, it was. 'Then,' he said, 'don't you know that when we medical men want to secure minute organisms for investigation, we expose gelatine to the air or in places where we have confined malignant germs? The gelatine speedily attracts and holds them. I'm afraid your flavored gelatine does the same. Cool the jelly if you must, but keep it in a piece of close muslin.' And we have always done that since then."

It is to be feared that kitchen processes are sources of illness more often than is imagined. In many city houses the little kitchen annex where stands the refrigerator, and where various eatables are kept in pieces against a drain. Yet here stand daily uncovered milk, butter, often custards and puddings, and various other absorbents. The average cook is also utterly ignorant of sanitary cause and effect, and the eternal vigilance of the house mother is the family's chief safeguard.—Boston Journal of Commerce.

## ABOUT POTATOES.

Some Peculiarities of Growth in the

In a western grange there was recently an animated discussion on the asserted fact that there are but few potato blossoms compared with the number seen half a score of years ago. Many of those that open almost immediately fall off, and in some localities such a thing as a potato seed is a rarity.

It has been questioned whether the potato bug is responsible for this state of things, a number of farmers arguing that this insect had exercised some deleterious effect on the plant and indirectly on the blossoming process. While it is barely possible that the potato beetle may have had a certain amount of influence in the matter, it is unquestionably the fact that potato blossoms are growing fewer every year, and are liable to cease almost altogether.

It is an axiom of nature that whatever is not required is gradually eliminated. Having apparently no use whatever for seed and having no attention paid to it, the potato has evidently become of the opinion that it is not worth while to waste any strength in producing it. The entire attention of the farmer is concentrated on the tuber and for this reason nature is turning all her forces toward the roots. In many localities potato tops are not nearly as strong and rank growing as they formerly were. The whole trend of nature is usually in one direction, and, failing to have seed product appreciated in the potato, she bends her energies toward the development and increase of the roots.

It is a much more plausible and satisfactory way to account for the disappearance of potato-blossoms, and is, in addition, a purely scientific one.—N. Y. Ledger.

## NOTES AND COMMENTS.

There begins to be a suspicion that the McKinley and Harrison booms are trying to pass on the same track.—N. Y. World.

Ohio is said to favor McKinley for president. Evidently a case of anything to get rid of him and get a man in as governor who will attend to his duties.—Albany Argus.

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